

Marian Pounds East, Two Straight in I-8

By BILL O'CONNELL

The change from defense to offense hasn't altered Joe Zarlengo's aggressive style.

The 5-8, 210-pound former Marian Catholic linebacker still bruises his opponents, but now he's doing it at fullback for the Spartans. Zarlengo rushed for 115 yards in 17 carries Saturday at Sarff Field to lead Marian to a 28-6 Illini-8 conference victory over Joliet East.

Zarlengo, who broke the 100-yard rushing mark for the second straight week, scored on touchdown and teammate Tom Chisholm added two more scores and rushed for 67 yards to ignite the Spartans.

"WE DIDN'T execute extremely well, but we controlled the line of scrimmage again," said first-year Marian head coach Dave Mattio, whose team disposed of I-8 foe Bolingbrook 20-0 in its season-opener a week ago.

"I'm happy that the kids jelled. We were more consistent overall this week. But we had a little too much confusion. We had communication problems, too much confusion. We had faith in the plays we called, but they weren't executed."

Although Mattio wasn't completely pleased with the Spartans' offensive showing, Marian rushed for 299 yards, compared to just 28 for the Kingsmen.

The Spartans, whose power attack didn't rely on passing Saturday, threw for only 47 yards, while East, sparked by an 84-yard touchdown pass, gained 123 yards through the air. Marian picked up 19 first downs compared to just four for the Kingsmen.

MARIAN grabbed a 14-0 lead at the close of the first half, while allowing East just one first down and 15 yards total offense.

Chisholm, a 5-8, 160-pound halfback, scored Marian's first touchdown, a five-yard run on the last play of the first quarter. Chisholm's run

capped a 53-yard, 12-play drive which was highlighted by Mark Blankenberger's 19 yards rushing on four carries.

Starting quarterback Nick Calvi injured his ankle on the third play of the drive and was replaced by Karl Volkman, who performed flawlessly.

Volkman, a 6-0, 160-pound junior, guided the Spartans to a second-quarter touchdown. Volkman completed two passes to Shawn Janus for 23 yards before Mike Petrarca swept left end for a seven-yard touchdown with 1:56 remaining in the first half. Calvi returned to give Marian the two-point conversion.

AFTER a scoreless third quarter, East's Tim Poffenbarger mishandled a Marian punt to open the fourth quarter and the Spartans' Mike Schilf recovered the loose ball at the Kingsmen 29.

Eight plays later, the rugged Zarlengo barreled over from two yards out with 7:06 to play. Calvi again added the conversion run.

The Kingsmen entered Spartan territory for the first time on their next possession when halfback Tim Edwards drilled an 84-yard touchdown strike to wing back Bobby Boyd at the 6:24 mark.

But Zarlengo and the Spartans weren't through. On their next series, Zarlengo rushed for 68 yards, including a 41-yard run, to set the stage of Chisholm's second touchdown, a six-yard run off right tackle with 2:22 remaining.

EAST'S Boyd caught four passes for 115 yards with 99 yards coming on the halfback pass play.

Marian, which stretches its I-8 record to 2-0, travels to Joliet West Friday night. The Kingsmen, after stomping Argo in their opener, stand 1-1 in I-8 play.

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